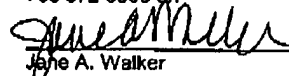


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 August 26, 2004
Jane A. Walker Date

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Boyce
Serial No.: 10/092,237
Filed: March 6, 2002
Group Art Unit: 1636
Title: **SURGICAL DEVICE FOR SKIN
THERAPY OR TESTING**
Conf. No.: 8680
Examiner: Kaushal
Our Ref. No.: CUT-01

Cincinnati, Ohio 45202

August 26, 2004

Mail Stop RCE
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Prior to examination of the above-identified application, please amend the application as follows:

Amendments to the claims begin on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 10 of this paper.

-1-